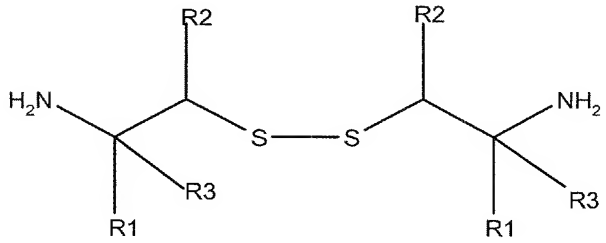
Amendments to the Claims

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Original) Compound characterized in that it corresponds to formula (1)



(1)

in which

- each group R^1 is identical to the other group R^1 and represents:
  - a C_1 to C_6 alkyl, C_2 to C_6 alkenyl or C_2 to C_6 alkynyl group,
  - a $(CH_2)_n$benzyl group in which n is equal to 0 or 1,
  - a $(CH_2)_m$(C_3 to C_6 cycloalkyl) group in which m is equal to 0 or 1,

each of the alkyl, alkenyl, alkynyl, benzyl or cycloalkyl groups being substituted with one or two group(s) represented by the group A;

- the group A represents:

  - a carboxylate group COOH or COOR, R representing a C_1 to C_6 alkyl or CH_2phenyl group;

  - a sulfonate group SO_3H or SO_3R', R' representing a C_1 to C_6 alkyl or CH_2phenyl group;

  - a phosphonate group PO_3H_2 or $PO_3R_2"R'"$, R" and R'" independently representing H, or a C_1 to C_6 alkyl or CH_2phenyl group;

- each group R^2 is identical to the other group R^2 and represents a C_1 to C_6 alkyl, C_2 to C_6 alkenyl or C_2 to C_6 alkynyl group, each alkyl, alkenyl or alkynyl group being free or substituted with the group B;

- the group B represents:

  - a carboxylate group, COOH or COOR', R' representing a C_1 to C_6 alkyl or CH_2phenyl group;

  - a phenyl group that is free or substituted with one or more radicals chosen from a halogen atom, an optionally protected hydroxyl radical, a C_1 to C_4 alkyl group, a cyano group, a free, salified or esterified carboxyl group or an amide group;

- each group R^3 is identical to the other group R^3 and represents a hydrogen atom.

2. (Original) Compound according to Claim 1, characterized in that R^1 is chosen from C_1 to C_6 alkyl, C_2 to C_6 alkenyl and benzyl groups, each of these groups being substituted with one or two group(s) represented by the group A as defined in Claim 1.

3. (Original) Compound according to either of Claims 1 and 2, characterized in that R^2 is chosen from a C_1 to C_6 alkyl group and a C_2 to C_6 alkenyl group, it being possible for each of these groups to be substituted with one or two group(s) represented by the group B as defined in Claim 1.

4. (Original) Compound according to any one of Claims 1 to 3, characterized in that R^1 represents an ethyl group substituted with a sulfonic group, a phosphonic group or a carboxylic group, that is free, salified or esterified, and R^2 represents an ethyl group substituted with a free or substituted phenyl group.

5. (Original). Compound according to any one of Claims 1 to 4, characterized in that it is 4,4'-dithiobis-(3,3'-amino-6,6'-phenyl-1,1'-hexanesulfonic) acid.

6. (Original) Compound according to Claim 5, characterized in that it is 4(S),4'(S),3(S),3'(S)-4'-dithiobis-(3,3'-amino-6,6'-phenyl-1,1'-hexanesulfonic) acid.

7. (Cancelled)

8. (Original) Pharmaceutical composition, characterized in that it comprises a compound according to any one of Claims 1 to 6.

9. (Previously presented) A method of selectively inhibiting aminopeptidase A, which comprises administering to a patient in need thereof an efficient amount of a compound of formula (1) according to claim 1.

10. (Previously Presented) A method for treating arterial hypertension which comprises administering to a patient in need thereof an efficient amount of a compound of formula (1) according to claim 1.

11. (Currently Amended) A method for treating a disease selected from the group consisting of primary or secondary arterial hypertension, cardiac insufficiency and renal insufficiency, myocardial infarction~~, a peripheral vascular disease,~~ diabetic proteinuria, which

comprises administering to a patient in need thereof an efficient amount of a compound of formula (1) according to claim 1.

12. (Cancelled)

13. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 9, wherein the compound of formula (1) is 4,4'-dithiobis-(3,3'-amino-6,6'-phenyl-1,1'-hexanesulfonic) acid.

14. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 9, wherein the compound of formula (1) is 4(S),4'(S),3(S),3'(S)-4'-dithiobis-(3,3'-amino-6,6'-phenyl-1,1'-hexanesulfonic) acid.

15. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 10, wherein the compound of formula (1) is 4,4'-dithiobis-(3,3'-amino-6,6'-phenyl-1,1'-hexanesulfonic) acid.

16. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 10, wherein the compound of formula (1) is 4(S),4'(S),3(S),3'(S)-4'-dithiobis-(3,3'-amino-6,6'-phenyl-1,1'-hexanesulfonic) acid.

17. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 11, wherein the compound of formula (1) is 4,4'-dithiobis-(3,3'-amino-6,6'-phenyl-1,1'-hexanesulfonic) acid.

18. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 11, wherein the compound of formula (1) is 4(S),4'(S),3(S),3'(S)-4'-dithiobis-(3,3'-amino-6,6'-phenyl-1,1'-hexanesulfonic) acid.

Claims 19 - 20. (Cancelled)